WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) announced that BSI Contracting Inc. of Birmingham has received a \$3.7 million contract for development of the first phase of the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo.

The company, a service disabled veteran-owned small business, was awarded the contract by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

According to the VA, the initial development of 12.7 acres will provide an estimated two years of burial space. It will include the construction of approximately 1050 crypt gravesites, 45 standard gravesites, 999 in-ground cremain sites, a temporary committal service shelter, and a temporary administration/maintenance shelter. Completion of this first phase of the project is expected to be completed in Spring 2009.

Congressman Bachus stated, "It is truly fitting that a local business owned by veterans will be developing the first portion of our new veterans cemetery. It means jobs and work for our community. The Alabama National Cemetery will be a source of great local pride. There is no better way that we can show our appreciation for the honor and commitment of the men and women who have served our nation in uniform."

Bachus authorized the construction of the cemetery through congressional legislation.

The full amount of the contract awarded to BSI Consulting, Inc. by the VA was \$3,725,405.